

Intimations.

DAKIN BROS. OF CHINA,
LIMITED,
CHEMISTS, &c.
COD LIVER OIL JELLY.

THIS is a sweet and exceedingly palatable jelly easily retained and digested by the most delicate stomach. Children speedily grow fat and it is asked for more, and although it contains 50 per cent. of the purest Cod Liver Oil, all baby taste and flavour is entirely covered.

COD LIVER OIL "GENUINE" NORWEGIAN.
This is without exception the finest oil that can be produced. Great care is taken in selecting healthy livers only in its manufacture, and as we buy direct from the manufacturer, we are able to guarantee it.

Per bottle, 7s. 6d. and 1s. 7d.
COD LIVER OIL EMULSION.
A form in which the oil may be taken without difficulty by delicate patients and children.

Per bottle, 7s. 6d. and 1s. 7d.
COD LIVER OIL EMULSION WITH HYPOPHOSPHITES (Lime and Soda).
A combination of great value in wasting diseases, especially of the Chest and Respiratory Organs.

Per bottle, 7s. 6d. and 1s. 7d.
BALSAM OF ANISEED AND LIQUORICE.
For the relief of all catarrhal complaints, such as Coughs, Colds, Hoarseness, and Soreness of the Chest, &c.

In bottles, 50 Cents and 2s.
BALSAMIC COUGH LOZENGES.
A never failing remedy for Coughs.

In bottles, 10 Cents.

Nos. 22 & 24, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.

WINES AND SPIRITS.

WE invite attention to the following Brands, all of which are excellent quality and good value for the money.

The same being specially selected by our London House, and bought direct from the most noted Shippers, are imported in wood and bottled by ourselves, thus enabling us to supply the best goods at moderate prices.

In ordering it is only necessary to state the name and quantity of Wines or Spirit wanted, and initial letter for quality desired.

PORTS. (For Invalids and general use).

	Per doz.	Per Bot.
A. Alto Douro, good quality, Green Capsule	10	1.00
B. Vintage, superior quality, Red Capsule	12	1.10
C. Fine Old Vintage, superior quality, Black Seal Capsule	14	1.25
D. Very Fine Old Vintage, extra superior, Violet Capsule (Old Bottled)	18	1.50

SHERRIES.

A. Delicate Pale Dry, dinner wine, Green Capsule	6	0.60
B. Superior Pale Dry, dinner wine, Green Seal Capsule	7.50	0.75
C. Maximilian Pale, Natural Sherry, White Capsule	10	1.00
C. C. Superior Old Dry, Pale Natural Sherry, Red Seal	10	1.10
D. Very Superior Old Pale Dry, choice old Wine, White Seal Capsule	12	1.10
E. Extra Superior Old Pale Dry, very finest quality, Black Seal Capsule (Old Bottled)	14	1.25

CLARETS.

A. Superior Breakfast Claret, Red Capsule	4	4.50
B. St. Estephe, Red Capsule	4.50	5.00
C. St. Julien, Red Capsule	7	7.50
D. La Rose, Red Capsule	11	12.00

MADEIRA, HOCK AND CHAMPAGNES.

FULL PARTICULARS OF THE VARIOUS BRANDS IN STOCK ON APPLICATION.

BRANDY.

A. Hennessy's Old Pale, Red Capsule	13	1.20
B. Superior Very Old Cognac, Red Capsule	15	1.40
C. Very Old Liqueur Cognac, Red Capsule	20	1.75
D. Hennessy's Finest Very Old Liqueur Cognac, 875 Vintage, Red Capsule	30	2.50

SCOTCH WHISKY.

A. Thorne's Blend, White Capsule	8	0.75
B. Watson's Glenlivet, White Blend, Blue Capsule with Name and Trade Mark	8	0.75
C. Watson's Aboulay-Glenlivet, Red Capsule, with Name and Trade Mark	8	0.75
D. Watson's H.K.D. Blend of the Finest Scotch Malt Whiskies, Violet Capsule	10	1.00
E. Watson's Very Old Liqueur Scotch Whisky, Gold Capsule	12	1.10

IRISH WHISKY.

A. John Jameson's Old, Green Capsule	8	0.75
B. John Jameson's Fine Old, Green Capsule	10	1.00
C. John Jameson's Very Fine Old, Green Capsule	12	1.10
Genoules Bourbon Whisky, fine old, Red Capsule, with Name	10	1.00

GIN.

A. Fine Old Tom, White Capsule	4.50	0.50
B. Fine Unsweetened, White Capsule	4.50	0.50
C. Fine A.V.H. Geneva	5.25	0.50

RUM.

Finest Old Jamaica, Violet Capsule	12	1.00
Good Leonard Island, \$1.50 per Gallon		

LIQUEURS.

Benedictine Maraschino, Cinnamon, Heering's Cherry Cordial, Chateau Dr. Slegers' Angostura Bitters, &c.

PRICES ON APPLICATION.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LD.

THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

Hongkong, 4th February, 1892.

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, WEDNESDAY, MARCH 9, 1892.

TRAFFIC IN CHINESE COOLIES.

THE Chinese have always constituted the industrial class of the Eastern Hemisphere, and the transport of labourers from China to all parts of the countries about the Pacific has always been a large factor in the shipping business of the Eastern Ocean. As new lands have been opened up one after another, there has been an insatiable demand for labour, for thousands and millions of workmen; China has been the only country which could meet this demand, and hence the Chinese coolie traffic has assumed the dimensions of a leading branch of Oriental trade, even greater than the African slave trade in its most vigorous days.

In this weary, wicked world nothing is perfect, and the imperfections of the Chinese coolie traffic became more glaring as the traffic grew. All men are in a greater or smaller degree slaves of their circumstances; a poor man is by his poverty compelled to do what he does not wish to do, an ignorant man can know naught of the power and liberty of knowledge; ignorance and poverty combined are the greatest enemies of freedom, and no man who is in their power can exercise that free will which is nominally every man's birthright. In the case of the Chinese race this is especially noticeable. The empire is peopled by millions of hard-working toilers, who slave as few white men can even imagine, morning, noon, and night, to keep body and soul together; they know not of better things, and their mental capacity is just great enough to grasp the traditional rules of Celestial rice-growing or tea-cultivation, and nothing more. They have no leisure to study anything outside of their fields, nor any understanding beyond their rudimentary agriculture. To such people comes a "coolie broker," who tells strange tales of a land outside of the Middle Kingdom—a land where a day's pay, instead of twenty or thirty cash, is so many cents; where no mandarin lives on the fat of the land, with good rice every day instead of potato meal and miller-chaff, with tobacco and opium to be had for next to nothing, with good clothing and a comfortable hut to live in, with countless other attractions such as figure in the dreams of the plodding up-country Chinese coolie. The peasants listen; perhaps the broker has with him some of their old acquaintances, now prosperous merchants in this strange foreign country. The coolies jump at his offer. All they have to do is to sign some mysterious papers, or read off set responses to the queries of a Government official. They do so, and the broker does the rest. He provides their passage, food on the way, a little pocket money, and a contract to work somewhere in the Straits, Borneo, Australia or America. Thus the broker obtains a gang of some hundreds of coolies, who take in all he says and do as he tells them. They go before an emigration officer and a consul; they repeat the statements which their benefactor has told them they must; they listen, unheeding, to what the official says, for their friend has told them to take no notice; then they embark, and in due course reach the foreign country. Singapore is the principal distributing centre for Chinese emigrants in the East. Here they again go before officials, they listen indifferently to the usual platitudes about freedom of contract and right of complaint, they are medically examined in a way, and they are lodged in "coolie depots." There they are well fed, and kept under guard until their employer (the word used in the Straits is "purchaser") takes them away. It is necessary to thus keep them safe in barracoons, for they are under contract and must not break loose. They have taken passage, food, and advances of wages, and have given no return as yet. It is just the same as if they were in prison for debt. After this they are taken away to a plantation, or a mine, or a railway, and told to work off their debts, to do their three years. If they run away, they may be brought back and imprisoned; if they do not work hard enough, their sentence is extended; until some of them die before gaining freedom. If they work well, their debts are soon paid off in labour, and after that they can earn money and ultimately go away. So can a convict in Portland gaol. The convict likewise has taken the preliminary steps "voluntarily," if any man can act voluntarily under the weight of abject poverty and ignorance; the succeeding steps are the necessary consequences, in both cases, of the man's "voluntary" acts; the ultimate result is undoubtedly beneficial to all concerned. No better system can be devised; but it is not freedom.

Mr. HENRY VARLEY, an Exeter Hall philanthropist, on a globe-trotting crusade was greatly struck with the resemblance between the coolie traffic and the African slave trade. There is a strong resemblance, and nobody knows it better than the Straits journalists who resent Mr. VARLEY's remarks so petulantly. There is such a resemblance, in fact, that within the last two years a Commission was appointed by the Straits Government to investigate. Their report was to the effect that a great demand exists for labour in the whole Malay Archipelago; that an unlimited supply is available in China, and practically nowhere else; and that when there is a demand on one side and a supply on the other, no force or artifice can prevent the flow of the article required. Coolies must come from China, and it is absolutely impossible to prevent them; they are compelled by circumstances to emigrate, and that compulsion is, as

any compulsion must be, a check on freedom. Absolute freedom is a myth. The most any Government can do is to make this form of slavery as easy and as pleasant as may be for the hapless coolie.

TELEGRAMS.

THE LONDON COUNTY ELECTIONS.
LONDON, March 7th.
The County Council elections in London have resulted greatly in favor of the Progressives. The Earl of Rosebery has been returned for the Finsbury district.

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

A REGULAR meeting of the Ethen Mark Lodge, No. 264, will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zetland Street, on Monday, the 14th instant, at 8.30 p.m. precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

IN addition to the disastrous collapse of Mr. F. B. Watson, it is reported that two other foreign firms in Yokohama have failed, and that several more are expected to follow suit unless business improves greatly.

A TOKYO paper, the *Toshinichi*, reports that Count Salgo, a Privy Councillor, in view of his close relations politically with Count Togo, has determined upon following the example of that statesman by tendering his resignation.

The Japanese Consul at Tientsin has reported to the Tokyo Government that the Chinese Northern squadron, under the command of Admiral Ting, will visit Nagasaki about the beginning of May, and may possibly extend its cruise as far as Yokohama.

The Steamboat Co.'s well-known river steamer *Kiushu* was sold at public auction by Mr. J. M. Armstrong this afternoon, and after a faint show of opposition amongst two or three Chinese, the old "bone-shaker" was knocked down to How Hing of Canton for \$8,000. The vessel will doubtless be at once towed to Canton and broken up.

The Band of the 1st Shropshire L.I. will play the following programme at the Officers' Mess this evening, commencing at 7.30 p.m.:—
Overture, "The Girl of the Year."
March, "The Girl of the Year."
March, "The Girl of the Year."
March, "The Girl of the Year."

THERE was only a limited attendance at Wood-ward's Circus last night, the bitterly inclement weather doubtless keeping pleasure-seekers indoors. The entertainment, however, proved excellent in every respect and gave great satisfaction. To-night—last night but one of the season—a capital bill is promised, which ought to attract a large audience.

A MASTER of a Hongkong firewood junk carried in his vessel a number of Chinese coolies, and a number of robbers, and calmly allowed one of the said robbers to come on board, bid him on the head with a chunk of his own firewood, and clear off with his six guns. The police managed to arrest the thief and two men who were in his company at the time, and this morning the magistrate sent the chief offender to gaol for fourteen days. The other prisoners were discharged.

On February 25th, says the *Asiatic* of *Tonkin*, the convey which communicates regularly between Lang-son and Hanoi was attacked in the jungle between the posts of Song-hoa and Ba-tien. A band of thirty Chinese pirates, armed with Winchester repeaters, was in ambush between two bridges. As usual, the caravan had with it a large number of natives under the protection of a few French soldiers. At the head went horses sent by the *guan-bo* of Cao-bang; then came a contingent of armed, escorted by ten men with Winchester. At the first volley, one of the horsemen was killed and three Chinese coolies wounded; three horses were captured, and \$200, carried off in the belt of the *guan-bo*'s man, were carried off, with eight loads of ammunitions. After the first few shots, the remainder of the military escort, under Lieut. Renard, sprang quickly to the attack, and cleared the path by firing salvoes that then scoured the vicinity and took up a position on a hilltop, while the rest of the force, under Capt. Lamay, set out to reconnoitre, driving away the pirates by firing. The enemy ultimately dispersed among the ravines and fled across the Song-thuong. The *Asiatic* adds that these attacks become more and more frequent, and the escorts which accompany the caravans are usually found to be too small. Reinforcements had been ordered this time, but the order came too late.

THE Shanghai Marine Engineers Mutual Insurance Society recently issued a notice to its clients in Hongkong stating that "no more risks can be taken or policies renewed on vessels sailing from Hongkong." This was at first thought to be in consequence of the dangers from pirates, as it is known that the *Marine* policy resulted in a loss to the Society. The real cause, however, is not that (as is supposed, not directly or indirectly), but that it has been found that there is a question whether the Society has not been slightly exceeding its powers in some way, steps are being taken to ascertain exactly how the matter stands, and to put the Society's business on a perfectly secure legal basis; and in the meantime it has been thought advisable to discontinue the Hongkong agency pending the decision of the directors. The more so as Mr. Kinghorn, the Society's representative in Hongkong, has been for some months finding his time more than abundantly occupied with other work. Consequently, until further notice be given, Hongkong policy holders will communicate with Shanghai direct. The danger of loss from piracy, though acknowledged to be a serious consideration with this and other insurance companies, is not the declared reason for the step now taken.

A CHINESE named Sam Achung, born at Yungling in the province of Kwangtung in the Empire of China just six-and-twenty years ago, went to Singapore last spring and there became a member of the Police Force. Finding himself somewhat dull in the Straits, Sam returned to Hongkong in November last, and passing on to the City of Rams by the good ship *Powson*, soon found himself in the fond embrace of his aged father, who welcomed back the prodigal son. But the billing and cooing didn't last very long, and Sam once more launched out in the world to seek his fortune and have a good time generally. Arriving in the city late a few days ago with several tens of shakels of silver, his lavish expenditure in a few days' time attracted the attention of a crowd of Singaporeans who soon "placed him," and this morning the hope of the Singapore Police appeared amongst a crowd of Singaporeans who had, *ad nauseam*, waited to interview Mr. Wise at the Police Court. Being unwell, Mr. Wise, being a very busy man, was obliged to refer the case to the Magistrate, who was called upon to discharge the reason for his desertion from the Singapore Force until this day week.

THE steam-yacht *Normania* arrived at Yokohama during the morning of the 1st inst.

ORDERED to clear the court, an Irish officer at Ballinacree did so by this announcement:—"Now, then, all ye yeagards that isn't lawyers must leave the court."

THE declared quantity of coal shipped from Kuchino during December was valued at \$85,678.00, from Meiji at \$69,764.87, and from Karatsu at \$4,914.00.

On February 26th, at Hanoi, six Annamite soldiers of the French Colonial Army were executed, in accordance with a decision of the Court-martial, on a charge of treachery.

THE price paid by the Japanese for the German steamer *Augustus* is given as yen 65,000. The vessel has, of course, changed her flag, and will run between Yokohama and Hokkaido ports.

A REGULAR meeting of Perseverance Lodge, No. 1105, E.C., will be held in Freemasons' Hall, Zetland Street, on Wednesday, the 16th instant, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting brethren are cordially invited.

A TELEGRAM from Tokyo says that a rumour is again prevalent in the capital of the probability of some twenty or thirty new members being added to the House of Peers. Six or seven will be nominated from among the local governors.

A DISPATCH from Ventura (Cal.), under date 21st December to the *New York Maritime Register*, reports:—"A Chinese junk came ashore here this evening with sails all furled but nobody on board; unable to tell where she is from."

In a recent Sydney Supreme Court action, Pilcher, Q.C., examining a witness: "You may answer, they won't hang you for it." "There now," said Mr. "Jack" Went, Q.C., "you've got what never gave any one before—an opinion without a fact."

A SHIMONAKI Journal reports that considerable progress has been made with the construction of a harbor at Misaki, near Shimoda, of 6,000 feet of quay, having been already built. The Hongkong Praya Reclamation is expected to finish still any year now.

PHILOSOPHERS, according to the latest devices, have not been able to decide what would be the fate of a donkey placed exactly midway between two balloons. As there is clearly no reason why "Neddy" should choose one risk rather than the other, it is presumed that, logically, he would stave to death.

It is reported that the Nippon Yusen Kaisha intend extending their line of steamers to the Kurile Islands. This Company's fast service, between Japan and the Australian ports, *via* Hongkong, decided on last year, is stated to be fast approaching completion, and before many months are over will be in full swing.

On the 25th ult., a French force of 50 men, under Capt. Maguon, operating in a northern district of Tonkin, undertook to surprise a pirate post held by Ah Hop, a notorious chief who has long had it all his own way on the Chinese frontier. The gallant captain thought the place was well guarded, and he decided to attack it; but when he got there he found himself face to face with a strong force well entrenched. The captain and three men were killed, and several others wounded, before they could escape.

THE Kobe *Nippo* publishes a highly laudatory account of Mr. Woodford's cure for rheumatism, and asserts that a member of its staff has been cured after a very brief trial of the remedy. Mr. Woodford claims that the cure in question was wrought within five minutes and in the presence of several Japanese gentlemen who are willing to testify to the marvelous qualities of his medicine. "Sequoia" will find a rival already established in Kobe. Mr. Woodford, if we mistake not, was in practice in Hongkong a few years ago.

THIS, says Sappho Smith in the *Bulletin* is what a visitor saw at a certain Sydney suburban clergyman's house the other Sunday. During a heavy thunderstorm, in the afternoon, the household cat brought her half-drawn kitten into the gentleman's drawing-room. Of course the kitten was a member of its mother's race, and warm milk of course. But first he merely creviced the baby-cat's neck and then dashed it down on the hearth. Next he pitched it up out of the window. The same evening, in the pulpit, the same shepherd, with upraised finger and eyes rolling heavenward, read out the hymns with most melting pathos.

THE *Tonkin* states in reference to the Yen-lang disaster reported recently, when a French post was surprised and almost the whole force slaughtered; that on the day before the attack, a native officer of the 13th company, who had been severely punished by the commander of the fort, deserted to the enemy with two-thirds of his company; and that through their assistance the rebels were able to enter the fort. This statement appears to be borne out by the fact that the commander of the fort was killed, and that a native officer and thirty men are entirely unaccounted for, with all their arms, etc.; and it was known that ordinarily the post was admirably guarded, and should have been secure against any surprise. The story is officially denied.

THE announcement that a petition in bankruptcy has been filed by Mr. E. B. Watson of Yokohama, is published by the *Japan Mail*, which adds: Mr. Watson is a man of the highest business capacity, and his charms of manner and conversation have rendered him universally popular. If such people cannot succeed in the commercial struggle, who may look for good fortune? The *Shanghai* writes thus:—Messrs. E. B. Watson and Co., of 47, Yokohama, borrowed \$15,533 from the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on the 10th ult., on the security of 2,100 *kins* of rice in their own godowns. The arrangement was that the loan should be repaid as soon as the rice was sold; and that the bill of sale should be made out in the name of Katsuki Sonji (agent) and Ah Shio, a Chinaman—which was to be exchanged for the promissory note. But the Bank, hearing a rumour that Katsuki & Co. were selling the rice to another party, at once sent a messenger to Katsuki at Shinkwa Beach, Hyogo, to demand an examination of their godown. The firm declined on various pretexts. The Bank, on this, at once instructed Mr. Sakuragi Kamihisa, a barrister, to bring an action for the recovery of the rice, and also for the seizure of twelve warehouses belonging to the firm in question. On the 10th, the temporary possession of the warehouses was enforced. As soon as the news got abroad, Messrs. Brown & Co., 55, Kobe, another creditor, took the same steps, their example being followed by certain Chinese merchants. The warehouses were thus seized upon three times. On the 20th, the Hongkong Bank instituted an examination. Some of the warehouses were empty; some contained rice belonging to Messrs. Samuel & Co.; the total amount found in the warehouses, however, 1,500 bags were hypothequated to the Mutual Bank, and 2,450 to the 6th National Bank of Mr. Isenura Bankai. There was not a grain of rice remaining which the other creditors could claim.

SAYS the Nagasaki *Rising Sun*.—Mr. A. Le Provost, one of the coroner's jury summoned to investigate the circumstances attending the shooting of the late Mr. Gower Robinson, has published a statement to the effect that he *quittingly allowed a verdict to be given which he did not agree to*. As Mr. Le Provost took a solemn oath in the name of God to "diligently enquire, and *truly* presentment make," and afterwards attacked his signature to a finding drawn up with due deliberation, his action constitutes the very gross crime of perjury; and if he is not prosecuted and punished accordingly, it will not be because he is not deserving of the extreme limit of the law. Mr. Le Provost considered it a "mistake" to be on the jury in question, and so it was, as matters have turned out; and it may be even a much more serious question than he at first dreamt of; but we venture to think there are a good number of his countrymen in Yokohama who would consider it a pleasure to "sit" on him, should he be now arraigned before Her Majesty's Court.

A CORRESPONDENT writes:—"The same old game. The Service first, the public good a secondary consideration. A round peg in a square hole—a tailor, Postmaster-General of Hongkong. If the Assistant Postmaster was not capable of managing the business, was there no one else in the Public Service capable of adequately filling the place without going to the Harbour Department? After the new Governor's speech about the loan, I hoped better things of him; but it now looks to have been a cheap bid for popularity, as nothing more certain than the return of the Secretary of State to allow the colony to contract any further loan under existing circumstances."

Our correspondent has only the authority of the *China Mail* for the assertion that Mr. Hastings, Acting Harbour Master, will act as *locum tenens* during the absence on leave of Postmaster Travers, and that is hardly good enough. Any such appointment would be a breach of job, and of course would have to be very strongly protested against. It does not require any particular ability to manage our local post-office, or Mr. A. K. Travers could not hold the appointment—but to put a sailor in such a position, and especially when that officer is in the right place ably performing his own proper duties, would be altogether too absurd. We shall have to deal very seriously with this vexed question of acting appointments at an early date.

As will be seen by an advertisement elsewhere in this issue, the members of Woodyard's Circus have tendered a special benefit to Professor Victor Valais, the daring balloonist, in order to recoup him for the expenses incurred over the two ascents he gave in this colony. These balloon ascents and parachute descents were by far the most daring and sensational ever witnessed in Hongkong, and attracted thousands of spectators, who, however, carefully kept outside the enclosure and enjoyed the show from a safe distance. The performance was a success in every way, and the company present, and after recent experiences for which the inexhaustible selfishness and conceit of certain aspiring amateurs who, puffed out with frolicsome vanity, imagine themselves artists, are mainly responsible—we should strongly recommend professional performers to give Hongkong a wide berth in future. Our amateur marvels are much too good to give experienced actresses and actors the ghost of a chance of earning a living. The fact that Mr. Valais, after giving two performances that could not be surpassed anywhere, found himself actually out of pocket owing to the audience sneaking outside instead of paying for their entertainment, doesn't reflect much credit on Hongkong's honesty and fair-play. However, as a capital programme is promised for to-morrow night, we trust that the courteous and kindly compliment paid Mr. Valais by Madame Woodyard, Mr. W. H. H. and his followers, workers in the magic circle, will be handsomely responded to by the Hongkong community.

THE Tientsin correspondent of the *New York Tribune*, who evidently writes with a good deal of authority, predicts an early war between China and Russia. In a recent letter occur the following remarks:—China has always regarded Korea as a vassal, and even now expects an annual tribute from her. She has become fully aroused concerning the rapid advance of Russia in the East and her designs on Korea, and has accordingly strengthened her armies along the entire Siberian frontier. War with Russia she expects any day, and is constantly preparing for it. An attack upon Korea would, in the Chinese way of looking at it, be a declaration of war against China, and would be the signal of a commencement of hostilities along the entire boundary of China and Siberia. To prepare for this state of affairs, China has begun in the past year a system of military roads and railways along the frontier which will enable her to throw at short notice any number of her millions of soldiers at any threatened point for attack or defence. Whatever efforts her opponents may take to check her, it is only a question of time when the Russian armies will advance upon Korea, and her fleet will take the sea and the Russian flag will wave over this newly acquired part of the Czar's Empire. With the completion of the Trans-Siberian Railway, when the Russians can throw their armies upon the entire frontiers of Korea and China, and advance from any or all of these points simultaneously, everything will be ready, and the Russian Bear will have obtained his objective point in the Far East; and can then turn his undivided attention to the conquest of Japan, completing his empire, and thus to the world's highways.

A DOLLAR A COLUMN.
"TELEGRAPH" STORIES.
BY THE
COMBINED GENIUS
OF THE
GREATEST MEN ON EARTH.
BEAUTY AND THE BEAST,
OR
A CALF WITH A HEART OF PUTTY.
(Continued.)
That voyage was like a fearful nightmare. One could hardly believe it was real, for they had all been either sleeping or very near it, and in what seemed only a minute an awful and almost incomprehensible disaster had come upon them, while yet none could explain what had happened. None, that is to say, except the officer in charge, who seemed to have grasped the situation as perfectly and as coolly as if he had arranged the whole thing himself.
Directly the boat was lowered, two men sprang into it. Quasay was first, and the officer, a moment later, nearly dropped on him and jerked him out. No inebriation could be allowed to reach a critical moment, and if the cowardly fool were drowned, it would save him right. The two Chinamen then took their place at the oars and held the craft steady, while another picked up the limp, helpless forms of the terrified women and dropped them into the boat, where the officer planted them in a heap, any end up, eleven for a space intended for two only. Those left in the launch, who had to swim for their lives, were by this time clear of the sinking launch; Miss Sally, more collected than the others, of her part, had not lost her life, and a Chinaman, who was busy kept her from the explosion and quite something.

so that she and O'Grady took him into their care. There were thirty people in the water, trying to swim clear of the Customs launch and its prey—locked in a fiery and fatal embrace, dipping deeper and deeper.

All was quiet now; the voices from the unseen smugglers' junks had disappeared in the rainy darkness, leaving their victims in pleasing uncertainty as to whether they were now chuckling over an uninterrupted run of contraband goods, on the opolla shore, or had gone home to recount their exploits under the impression that the launch had all in it had been utterly demolished, or—*but I were they lying* low for some new devilry?

The sea was just as high as he would have been comfortable with the boat ordinarily, burdened with such a freight, which was not a crocus and difficult. Half awoken, in launching, over-loaded and undermanned, she made no headway at all, and barely kept afloat. So she was stopped and baled out as dry as could be, though there was not room to move, and the gunwale kept dipping easily. A rope was found, and hung over the stern as a tow-line for the swimmer. A grotesque, hideously fantastic procession it was! Thirty people hanging, fourteen on board, a tiny girl with two men trying to keep her from coming broad-side to the sea and capsizing. Oh, what an awful time it was before they reached the shore! The men at the oars bent to their task with a dogged desperation that only a Mongol knows; a white man would have been forced to give up from utter exhaustion, before that labouring craft with its dead weight behind had been forced to the distance. No pause for rest, no breathing time, and no speaking round, no change from the steady, mechanical, perpetual motion of the two Chinamen, who must have felt as though rowing in an anchored vessel.

"Ricksha!"
The funeral silence of two score souls at the brink of death, deepened only by the measured plash of a pair of oars, and the faint gasps of the struggling swimmers—the sudden ludicrously plaintive appeal for an easier mode of progress, resembled a violent awakening from a dream, from the drowsy of a comic opera. It was O'Grady who, weary with his double labour of supporting Sally and the moribund coolie in the water, longed for restful locomotion on dry land. Why suffer in silence? Why moan a hard fate, in anticipation of a Judgment Day that might yet be far off? Why contemplate death, and chew the cud of past sins, like a lodger in a boarding house trying to chew an ill-digested steak? He had recalled all the sins he could, and was now praying for all he could, and still the land seemed as far off as ever, and the coolies as tireless and as unsuccessful at their oars. He had fervently prayed for the eternal damnation of the Chinese who laid the trap for them, and yet the shore was but dimly visible a hundred yards away. Then he turned to thinking of the life he was losing of the friends who would be at his funeral, and indeed he was to have one ashore, and of the pleasure he would never know again. Never? Why never, pray? There was a large company present, and if the dismal dragging through the ice-cold water could not be made less depressing, or even downright lively, it should not be his fault. So he broke the silence—

"Oh, rick-sha! Laj-la, for the love of heaven!"
"Lighter, my dear, fear-killing laughter followed, not loud, but merry, and irresistible, quite enough to break the spell. So the fallow all he could, and still the land seemed as far off as ever, and the coolies as tireless and as unsuccessful at their oars. He had fervently prayed for the eternal damnation of the Chinese who laid the trap for them, and yet the shore was but dimly visible a hundred yards away. Then he turned to thinking of the life he was losing of the friends who would be at his funeral, and indeed he was to have one ashore, and of the pleasure he would never know again. Never? Why never, pray? There was a large company present, and if the dismal dragging through the ice-cold water could not be made less depressing, or even downright lively, it should not be his fault. So he broke the silence—

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shrick. Every body turned to see where she was pointing, behind them, in the direction of West Point. A light was visible, coming towards them.

"Now is the time to shoot," muttered Stuart, and directed the two Chinamen to aim their rifles at the light. Take care, no base, they cannot see us yet, if we get to land, twenty dollars to the man who hits that light."

Carefully, one by one, the shots were fired, and then he stopped them. The light was not struck, but it was receding, and they could hear indistinct growls.

Quickly the oars were at work again, and almost before they knew it the landing place was reached. Ah, thank heaven! That fearful, interminable voyage was ended at last. They were all safe, and though so weak that many had to be carried up the rough, rocky beach, not one was missing, not one was content without fervently thanking the one man who had saved them, and the other who had kept up their spirits and prevented them from dropping off and sinking beneath the waves in utter despair.

All together, helping each other like so many ladders, they stumbled and climbed and crawled over the uninviting rocks to the water of Government wharf where now a light shone out, and a group of men stood talking at the door. Too tired to wonder at this, to ask or give any explanation, or even to care whether they lived or died, most of the castaways merely pined for the steamer staggered into the house and lay on collapsed on the floor, while the inmates listened with wondering ears to Stuart's brief story. Not willing to gals any kind of idea of what had happened, they listened to the strange tales, and, anything, anything, and to meet in every way this altogether unprecedented emergency. The guests were not critical, and took eagerly such accommodation as the scanty resources of the lonely station could afford; indeed, it mattered not to most of them whether there was any accommodation at all; they were on dry land, that was enough, and they could not see that their clothes were wet, their bodies aching, their stomachs empty, their spirits prostrated in the excitement of what they were told. They were on dry land, they could lie down, they could rest and sleep. They were in just that state of subject indifference and stupor which precedes freezing to death.

Four white men only retained life enough to gather round the fire—a fire is wonderfully welcome sometimes—and tell their misadventures to their entertainers, who listened with all their ears while they were telling the story, and every living person on that tiny island, stripping off clothes that even now were wet with salt water, supplying warm dry wraps, blankets, towels, everything that could be used as a garment; passing round creature comforts, cups that cheered and might inebriate (if taken frequently), ministering to every want in rough and ready fashion, and all the while listening eagerly to the strange recital of disaster and despair.

"So it was you who fired those shots?" asked one; and then they noticed that he was an Inspector of police, and that some of the Chinese hurrying about the work of hospitality were also in the uniforms of the water police. "It was you who fired at us, taking us for the enemy? Why, we were patrolling the harbour, and we heard a noise and came towards you; and then when you began shooting we didn't know what to make of it, and came ashore on the other side to see what could be done. We didn't fancy going to investigate when bullets were flying round us, and we thought we might find out what it meant if we got at you from the other side. Lucky no harm was done, very."

All slept until late in the day, and then a launch took them off to Hongkong. Before landing, Miss Salonia had a long conversation with O'Grady on the whole history of the unlucky trial trip of the river steamer and its sequel; in the course of which she unobtrusively revealed to him that she had at first taken a great liking for Mr. Quimodo, and that after his exhibition of selfish cowardice in misfortune her fancy had been turned to aversion. Without saying anything, he made up his mind that the younger did not deserve to be so harshly judged, and that he (O'Grady) would manage to obliterate this bad impression Quimodo had made; though of course, nobody must be allowed to notice that he was interfering between them; even knew anything of their affairs. "Brier Fox he lay low."

LI HUNG-CHANG'S BIRTHDAY.

THE THEATRICAL PERFORMANCES.

We are indebted to a private correspondent for a copy of the programme giving the appended brief account of the plots of the plays performed in connection with Li Hung-chang's birthday festivities:—

THE LAKE BOAT.

No spot on earth can surpass Wu in natural beauties, and the fame of the Tiger's Mound, outside the Chang Gate of Suzhou, draws lovers of scenery from every part. Boats rowed by charming maidens to the accompaniment of their own sweet voices carry the wanderer from one scene of loveliness to another. One day a certain Li Chin Fu (Golden Happiness) embarked on a small boat, which was rowed by one of the fairest of maidens, and, inspired by the beauties of the spot, he rose, joined in her song, and helped her to ply the oars. This, though a mere episode in a tourist's trip, gives us a glimpse of the beauties of Wu and the simple, exquisite pleasures of life.

THE LAKESIDE. Kuo Tai, for good services to the Dynasty of Paug, was created Prince of Peng Yang. His sixth son, Al, married the Princess of Sheng Ping. On the birthday of Kuo Tai his other sons came with their wives to present their felicitations, but the princess, proud of her birthright, would not accompany them, for which Al corrected her somewhat sharply. With disavowed dress she went in tears to lay her complaint before his Majesty, and Kuo Tai in person conducted his son as a prisoner into the imperial presence.

The Emperor sided with the husband in enforcing the duty of a child to her parents, loosened the bonds of the prisoner, and commanded the princess to ask pardon of her father in law. He rewarded Kuo Tai.

Surly Kuo Tai was much to be envied, happy in the possession of honour and wealth, sons and grandsons.

BATTLE PLAY. The plays of the Peking Garden are founded on the legends and tales of antiquity. Though this performance contains but little story, it is amusing.

The players are two, both in female dress. They perform strange and curious feats with their "rattles," and play and sing extempore. As a variation on the ordinary play, instruments they sing the "Sheng Sheng" (Gentle Mamma) and the "Pa Pa Chiao" (Step-Daughter) as if to entice men into the right path.

THE CROSS ROADS. Chiao Chan, a brave general of the times of Suag, was banished, but a friend of his, one Jen, resolved to follow as a guard. One evening Chiao Chan, put up at an inn, was surrounded by a band of robbers, who were about to rob him. Chiao Chan, however, was in reality an evil spirit, and he

and his wife used to murder unsuspecting travellers for the sake of plunder. The inn-keeper in the course of the night entered Jen's room, and a deadly struggle began. Chiao Chan, aroused by the noise, came in and joined in the fray, and they fought till day-light, when the inn-keeper and his wife were overpowered and killed. The exploits of robbers and highwaymen, it is true, are related in books, but cultured men do not discuss them. Actors perform a piece like this as an exhibition of prowess and agility. [The above description of a sampan with a yelling woman at the paddles is great.—Ed.]

THE FORMOSAN GOLD-FIELDS.

THE RICHEST DIGGINGS IN THE EAST.

Last spring the *Hongkong Telegraph*, having heard that some important political and commercial changes were about to take place in the island and that some gold-fields were then being worked by an enterprising Cantonese merchant named Achut, despatched a special correspondent to Formosa with instructions to travel into the interior, inspect the gold-fields, investigate the commercial and political affairs of the island and report as fully as possible. "Our Special" accordingly took passage in one of the speedy coasters running to Tamsui and Amoy and after a brief sojourn in the island province, as Formosa is always described in Chinese official documents, he returned to Hongkong with a budget of interesting and instructive manuscripts which was published in these columns. One of the most interesting features of the correspondence was the portion dealing with

THE PATOU GOLD-FIELDS, which were being worked in a very unbusiness-like manner by a few dozen inexperienced diggers who were on wages amounting to thirty cents per diem. It was then pointed out that the diggings might be greatly developed and that, judging from experience, the Patou river, which was very rich in the precious metal. The diggers, who were then working on the Patou, were very much surprised to find that the Chinese authorities seemed to have carried some weight, for we find there is now quite a rush to the diggings. Hundreds of Chinese have repaired thither and every steamer arriving at Tamsui lands dozens of home-bred sons of toil in this latest discovered *El Dorado* of the Far East. Many of them are old diggers who, having failed in California and Australia, and California, have returned to their native land, lost their all and then found the Exclusion Acts barring their return to either the States or the Colonies. Such men of course hailed with joy tidings of a Chinese Bendigo in the neighbourhood, where, by paying a small fee to the authorities, they would be allowed to labour in peace and enjoy the fruits of their labour.

Consequently there was an old-time rush to the Patou fields, and the Douglas Co.'s steamer *Hallong*, which sailed on Sunday morning for Tamsui, carried a large number of weather-beaten diggers who went on board with picks, shovels, pans and tents, with light hearts and smiling countenances, much in the same style as did thousands of Englishmen in the old country during the memorable "rush" off to try their luck on the Bendigo, Ballarat and other rich Colonial gold-fields in the fifties.

A number of these passengers by the *Hallong* had worked in California and Australia, and could tell of many varied experiences in those countries. One of them stated to the *Telegraph* representative that, after five years' patient labour in New South Wales, he went to the Black Hills rush and got

A TWENTY-OUNCE NUGGET out of the first hole he sank. He was most lavish in his praise of the Australasian Government, and the liberty granted to aliens in the colonies in the old days, and expressed bitter regret that the Exclusion Acts precluded his return to a land where working men can enjoy the fruits of their labour. However, continued the old miner, "perhaps Patou blows all same Bendigo. Spoke to too much so, all same Chinaman just now."

A few years ago, if our memory serves us correctly, a well-known Amoy resident formed a syndicate of American and English merchants and made a handsome offer to the Government of Formosa for the exclusive mining rights of the Patou region, which had not then been tapped. The offer was accepted by Liu Ming-chuan, who memorialized the Central Government on the subject. The latter, it seems, thought that if the mining rights were worth so much to foreigners they must be of equal value to the Slumbering Dragon, and consequently refused to grant the concession. But Governor Liu, being a man of strong will, was not to be beaten altogether, so he arranged with Mr. Achut to work the bed of the river in order that he might get an idea as to the value of the diggings. This was done, and had his Excellency remained in power much longer he would doubtless have succeeded in getting

A BIG CHINESE SYNDICATE to tender for the concession. But that was not to be, and he retired from office last June, which meant the new Governor had decided to build up a thriving colony which was done in Australia, by throwing the gold-field open to his countrymen and reserving the exploitation of the auriferous quartz reefs for syndicates to profit by, when the alluvial deposits are worked out. The policy is commendable, and if steadily pursued will probably result in great benefit to the Chinese Government and people.

During the past two months the results of these workings on the gold-fields have exceeded the most sanguine expectations of the promoters of the scheme, and each steamer leaving the island carries thousands of dollars worth of pure gold to Amoy and Hongkong, where it, of course, finds a ready sale. It is bought at the diggings by native merchants who take it to the port and ship it (in the *Hallong* chiefly) to their agents on the mainland, previously having in the usual way. On last week's ship down the *Hallong* brought fully fifteen thousand dollars worth of the precious metal, and the cry is still it comes, and still the miners flock thither. But besides the amounts shipped under parcel post, there is a good deal more doubtless finds its way to this and other ports, in the baggage and on the persons of passengers, who having perhaps only a hundred or two dollars' worth of gold, do not think it necessary to go through the form of shipping and paying duties.

The Patou river is near Keelung and is crossed by the Twatut-Keelung railway. Foreigners are, of course, precluded from participating in the "rush," although they were they allowed to try their luck in Formosa they might show the Chinese a trick or two in gold-mining which would astonish the "sons of Han" not a little. The company-promoter has been rather sick for some time now, and a holiday in Formosa would suit him immensely. But however that may be, there is no doubt that gold is plentiful in the Patou region and that the Chinese are taking it out in a manner which, while satisfying the thifty miners, brings in a good revenue to the Government in the shape of mining licences.

THE "KOLAO HUI" RISING.

CHINESE JUDICIAL METHODS.

The following article appears in a recent issue of the *North China Daily News*:—The verdict of the *Chiao Ching* contains because he will not confess that he is a rebel,

and as the rack and the kneeling on chafis and the burning paper did not succeed, the Viceroy's deputy, Mr. Yu, had him hung up by his hands tied together behind his back, by which the victim's weight would in time wrench his arms out of their sockets. This barbarous cruelty to a man who must be presumed to be innocent, rises on in the native city, contiguous to the foreign settlements, under the eyes of Mr. T'ao'ai-Nieh, a polished Chinese gentleman, and by the direction of an official specially designated by the Viceroy at Nanking, one of the highest officials in the Empire. These men are the fine flower of Chinese civilization; tempered, in the case of Mr. Yu, with some acquaintance with British law and a colonial police court. This is the ancient civilization which some foreigners profess to think that the missionaries should be restrained from undermining. Happily there are many more Chinese who wish to see these civil men in their civilisation sweat away, than there are foreigners who deprecate interference with them. The worst of it is that, shocked as we are at this barbarity, we can do nothing to stop it; and there is too much reason to fear that the nature of Chinese officials being what it is, foreign remonstrances do more harm than good.

Chen Chi-hual is being tortured like several others, to make him confess that he is a member of the *Kolao Hui*, and to get him to name his supposed accomplices. There is a very interesting drama now being played before our eyes, the chief scenes being laid at Nanking, with subsidiary scenes at Wuchang and Shanghai. Dr. Griffith John has assured us, and his assurances are most generally received by the foreign public in China, that the events of last year were caused by the Hunan publications. Mr. Drummond told us that they were caused by secret societies, of which the *Kolao Hui* is one of the most prominent. The Viceroy at Wuchang and Nanking, the chief rulers of the Yangtze Valley, who certainly ought to know, are convinced that Mr. Drummond is right. The Wuchang Viceroy some months ago in a haunt of the *Kolao Hui* in his capital, as was reported in our columns at the time, certain documents naming a certain Li Hung as the leader of those who were trying to overthrow the Chinese Government in the north with foreign aid. Li Hung might then raise a rebellion, and Li Hung has accordingly been for some months the name most often before the dwellers in central China. The character Li Hung, it may be mentioned, is that by which the Triad Society, which was at the bottom of the Taiping rebellion, was formerly known. It was asserted that Li Hung was the son, or adopted son, of the late General Li Sheng-chung, or Li Chien-shan, a noted general, who was finally decapitated. Then it was denied that there was any such person as Li Hung; it was asserted that there were two Li Hungs; and opinion fluctuated in and for the Chinese, foreigners having no data to go on, until at last a certain Li Hien-mow, a son of General Li Sheng-chung, fell into the hands of the Viceroy at Nanking, where he still is. The Viceroy can get no evidence against him and Li Hien-mow's fellow-provincials, Li Hung-chang—who is supposed to be the actual ruler of Chien-ming, the ex-Governor of Formosa, have offered to become security for him; but the Nanking Viceroy sticks to him, and is no doubt acting in concert with the Wuchang Viceroy. If Li Hien-mow is really a *Kolao* leader, as these Viceroy seem convinced that he is, he is being served with great faithfulness by his followers; for the detective who first denounced him, boldly denied all knowledge of him when confronted with him, and then when he has now come forward to declare that he knows where the real Li Hung is, and will produce him, while the men who are brought up here as followers of Li Hung bear the most cruel tortures rather than confess, if indeed they have anything to confess. For this is the interesting point; that no evidence has been made public, if the Viceroy's men really have it, that there is any Li Hung the leader of a rebellion or any rebellion for him to lead. Names are mentioned, but with bated breath, of high officials who are the real leaders, and whom the Viceroy dare not touch; and it is further affirmed by Chinese that none of the real leaders have been caught, and that those who have been executed as leaders were only non-commissioned officers in the Society's ranks.

The Nanking Viceroy carries out his apparent intention of holding Li Hien-mow until he can get evidence enough to condemn him, and then decapitating him, against the efforts of Li Hung-chang, the Nanking Viceroy's representative, and the others are Arbut men, and Mr. Drummond drew attention some time ago to the rivalry between Hunan and Anhui. There are some scenes to come; and meanwhile Li Hung-chang has evidently determined to get foreign opinion on his side. "Us and the Hunanese—with the brilliant exception of the Marquis T'ao—have on the contrary any desire to conciliate foreigners; but although the T'ao is a Hunan man, he might pay so much regard to foreign feeling as to stop the horrible torturing that is going on under his very eyes; and after all, Chinese law is not so very friendly to torture, for the magistrate is severely punished if the victim dies under torture."

A notorious *Kolao* leader, King Lao-wu, was captured in Tientsin, and sent to Wuhu for trial. He turned out to be a very dangerous character, for whose apprehension a reward of 3,000 taels had long been offered by the authorities.

A tea-firm employed while carrying in his pocket 100 dollars in notes, was passing through the Shanghai city temple when he was run against by a stranger. Immediately afterwards the employer found the money gone without even knowing how the thief managed to rob him.

The Governor of Anhui province and Viceroy Liu of Nanking, have jointly issued a proclamation offering a reward of 1,500 for the apprehension of one King Lao-wu, supposed to be a leader of the *Kolao*-hui. This man was recently arrested at Tientsin and sent to Wuhu for trial, but he escaped *en route*. He is said to be a most dangerous character and has been "wanted" by the officials for a long time.

After several examinations of Li Hien-mow and Ki Kuei-chien nothing of importance has been elicited from either. They stoutly deny having formed any acquaintance beyond meeting each other casually in Shanghai last year. As to the secret purchase of arms and the knowledge of *Kolao* affairs, they disclaimed, with great vehemence having had nothing to do with such matters. The officers compelling the court were considerably exercised in mind at having no report to the Viceroy, and they called for information. While they were making their report in the viceregal yards, one of the Viceroy's bodyguard stepped forth and said he knew where the true Li Hung was in hiding, and that he only awaited permission to "make the capture." The request was granted by the Viceroy. All are anxiously awaiting the new development of the case, which has certainly taken a strange turn. As reports say there are two Li Hungs, what the guard asserted may have some truth in it after all.

The numerous secret agents sent out by the Nanking Viceroy to glean evidence as to the alleged connection between Li Hien-mow and the *Kolao Hui* have all returned and reported their failure to discover anything at all. It is rumored that there is a notorious mounted bandit named Li Hung, and that it is likely he is the person implicated. Reports say that the Nanking Viceroy based his suspicion against Li Hien-mow on two grounds: (1) that one of the *Kolao*s, captured in Hupsh, had stated that a certain Li Hung, son of the late general Li Sheng-chung, was the society's leader; and (2) that one of Mr. Mason's boys said the society was supplied by a "Master Li" with funds to carry on its operations. Unless these two statements are clearly shown to refer to some other person than Li Hien-mow, the latter is not likely to regain his liberty for some time. Unfortunately Mr. Mason's boy never saw Li Sheng-chung at all, while the Hupsh *Kolao* was executed after his trial and conviction in accordance with the new regulations. The case is still as complicated as ever.

The following proclamation has been issued by the Shanghai Mixed Court Magistrate to the Chinese living in the Foreign Settlements:—Neh Taotal has received a communication from N. J. Hansen Esq., H. B. M.'s Consul-General, stating that some dishonest Chinese traders are in the habit of using false chips or "trade marks" to sell their piece goods, thereby doing great harm to the foreign traders and importers. This illegal practice is carried on in the following manner. The dishonest Chinese traders order from foreign countries inferior kinds of piece-goods and when they arrive in China the traders who order them stamp them with the chips, or "trade marks," of well-known, superior goods. Sometimes this is done in Shanghai, and sometimes at the final destination of the goods in the interior. By this illegal practice the real importers of the genuine brands, as well as the purchasers of the inferior goods suffer, and therefore H.B.M.'s Consul-General is of opinion that if the evil is not stopped it will ruin commerce and involve heavy disaster on the legitimate traders in piece-goods. It should at once be prohibited, and to ask this H.B.M.'s Consul-General has addressed the Thotal, who has instructed the Mixed Court Magistrate to issue this proclamation, and employ detectives to discover who are the traders who resort to this dishonest device to get rid of their inferior goods. Should they be found out they will be severely dealt with. Respect this all. Date, Kwang-hau, 18th year, and moon, 5th day.

Today's Advertisements.

WOODYEAR'S AUSTRALIAN CIRCUS, BOWRINGTON.

POSITIVELY THE LAST TWO NIGHTS. THURSDAY EVENING, the 10th March, LAST NIGHT! LAST NIGHT!

BENEFIT TENDERED TO VICTOR VALAZIE. Owing to the loss sustained by his two BALLOON ASCENTS, the Company have decided to give Professor VALAZIE A COMPLIMENTARY BENEFIT ON THURSDAY EVENING, 10th March, "GOOD DAY, BOSS!" And a varied and attractive programme.

MADAME WOODYEAR, Proprietors. W. HARLAND, Proprietors. Hongkong, 9th March, 1892.

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LTD. FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND TAMSUI. The Company's Steamship "FOKIEN" will be despatched for the above ports on FRIDAY, the 11th instant, at Noon. For Freight or Passage, apply to DOUGLAS LAIRRAIK & Co., General Managers. Hongkong, 9th March, 1892.

PERSEVERANCE LODGE OF HONGKONG, No. 1,165.

A REGULAR MEETING of the above named Lodge will be held in the FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, on WEDNESDAY, the 10th instant, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited. Hongkong, 9th March, 1892.

THE HONGKONG ROPE MANUFACTURING COMPANY, LIMITED. THE Eighth Ordinary General Meeting of SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the Office of the Company, Praya Central, FRIDAY, the 11th March, at 2.30 o'clock in the afternoon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the General Managers, declaring a dividend, and electing a Consulting Committee and Auditors.

THE TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 25th February to 11th March, both days inclusive.

SHEWAN & Co., General Managers. Hongkong, 20th February, 1892.

NOTICE. IMMEDIATELY after the above Meeting a MEETING of SHAREHOLDERS will be held to consider the question of the forfeiture of certain Shares in the Company at present standing in the name of the late General Manager.

Advertisement for HONG KONG TRADING COMPANY, LIMITED. DRAPERS, OUTFITTERS, TAILORS, SILK MEN, FURNISHERS. ANNUAL STOCKTAKING. IMPORTANT. CLEARANCE SALE, NOW PROCEEDING. SPECIAL BARGAINS IN ALL DEPARTMENTS. HONGKONG TRADING CO., LTD., 4, QUEEN'S ROAD AND DUDELL STREET. Hongkong, 8th February, 1892.

Advertisement for THE IMPERIAL HOTEL LTD. TOKIO, JAPAN. C. S. ARTHUR, Manager. THE FINEST HOTEL IN THE EAST. (Under the distinguished patronage of the Imperial Household.)

THIS fine hotel is situated within five minutes' drive of the terminus of the Yokohama-Tokyo Railway and is in near proximity to the Imperial Palace, the Parliament House and the Chief Public Offices. There are no inside rooms, thus securing well lighted, ventilated and cheerful accommodations. The Cuisine cannot be surpassed, and the aim of the management is to provide for the comfort and pleasure of the guest. The attractions of Tokio are countless, and the religious and floral festivals being of daily occurrence are to be seen at their best and on a grander scale than in any other portion of Japan. All the noted actors, wrestlers and jugglers make the capital their headquarters. RATES, \$3 to \$4.50 PER DAY. C. S. ARTHUR, Manager.

ROBERT LANG & CO. DRESS SUITS. NEWEST MATERIALS, FROM \$30, SILK LINED. A VERY LARGE SELECTION OF SCOTCH TWEEDS AND OTHER SUITINGS. EVENING DRESS SHIRTS, latest style. EVENING DRESS TIES AND GLOVES. EVENING DRESS & HOSE, SILK, THREAD, and MERINO. EVENING DRESS SHOES and PUMPS. Hongkong, 27th November, 1891.

Today's Advertisements.

GOVERNMENT NOTIFICATION. INFORMATION has been received from the Military Authorities that ARTILLERY PRACTICE from the Batteries will take place as under, between the hours of 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.:—

15th and 16th March.—From Kowloon East and Kowloon Dock in a South-Easterly direction. From North Point in a North-Easterly, Easterly and South-Easterly directions. 17th and 18th March.—From Stone-cutters' Island, in Western and South-Westerly directions.

From Belchers and Fly Point in Northerly and Westerly directions. 21st and 22nd March.—From Stone-cutters' Island, Belchers and Lyemut in the same directions as given above.

All Ships, Junks and other vessels are cautioned to keep clear of the ranges. The inhabitants of the houses near Belchers, Fly Point, Kowloon East and Kowloon Dock are warned to keep their glass windows open during the practice, and all people working in the vicinity of Belchers Battery are also warned to keep clear of that part which will be indicated by guns fired on sentry for the purpose.

By Command. W. M. GOODMAN, Acting Colonial Secretary. Colonial Secretary's Office, Hongkong, 7th March, 1892.

A CHALLENGE. JIM BROWN will be glad to box BILLY WATERS, middle-weight champion of British Columbia, for points for any money he can find; or will box him for endurance.

An answer through the *Hongkong Telegraph* will receive immediate attention. Hongkong, 9th March, 1892.

ROTHEN MARK LODGE OF HONGKONG, No. 244. A REGULAR MEETING of the above named Lodge will be held in FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, on MONDAY, the 14th instant, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited. Hongkong, 9th March, 1892.

YUNG KEE & Co., FROM SHANGHAI. EXECUTE PAINTING: Colour washing, Polishing, Decorating and Ornamenting Rooms and Walls, French Polishing, &c., &c. Furniture and Cabinet Makers. Have just completed contracts and received satisfactory testimonials from Victoria Hotel, Kowloon Club, Spanish Prison, &c., &c. No. 25, LYNCHBURST TERRACE, HONGKONG. Hongkong, 19th December, 1891.

ST. JOHN LODGE OF HONGKONG, No. 618, S.C. A REGULAR MEETING of the above named Lodge will be held in FREEMASONS' HALL, Zealand Street, on SATURDAY, the 12th instant, at 8 for 9.30 p.m. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited. Hongkong, 9th March, 1892.

CHS. J. GAUPP & CO., CHRONOMETER, WATCH and CLOCK MAKERS, JEWELLERS, SILVER SMITHS and OPTICIANS. CHARTS and BOOKS. NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS. Sole Agents for Louis Audemars' Watches awarded the highest Prize at every Exhibition, and for Volkmann and Sohn's CELEBRATED OPERA GLASSES. MARINE GLASSES and SPYGLASSES. No. 4, Queen's Road Central.

